



Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES February 9, 2021 Regular Meeting

Pursuant to the regulations, the regular Board meeting was held on the above date in the Waupaca High School LMC Distance Learning Lab and virtually via Google Meet, Live Stream, and by phone. The meeting was also broadcast on TV Channel 991.

The purpose of the Board Meeting Minutes are to capture the essence of discussions through the actions voted on. These minutes should not be interpreted to represent a transcription of the meeting. To watch a recording of this meeting, please click [here](#).

President's Comments and Pledge of Allegiance:

Stephen Johnson welcomed everyone and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Stephen Johnson at 5:16 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present in the WHS LMC Distance Learning Lab: Stephen Johnson and Dale Feldt. Betty Manion, Mark Polebitski, Patrick Phair, Sandra Robinson, and Steve Hackett were virtually present via Google Meet.

Also Present:

Present in the WHS LMC Distance Learning Lab: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Mark Flaten, Ella Waite, and Steve Klismet. Virtually present via Google Meet: Carl Hayek, Laurie Schmidt, Steve Thomaschefskey, Michael Werbowsky, Laura Colbert, John Erspamer, Jody Pankratz, Carrie Naparalla, Brianna Hass, Kerrigan Neidert, Alyssa Durrant, Mandi Salter, and Matt Lawniczak.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Sandra Robinson to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Public Comment:

None.

Review of Board Meeting Norms:

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Betty Manion and seconded by Steve Hackett to approve the January 12, 2021 Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Sandra Robinson and seconded by Patrick Phair to approve the January 25, 2021 Special Board Meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Steve Hackett to approve the February 5, 2021 Special Board Meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Communications:

Mr. Saari recognized the many important observances during February and early March.

Donation:

Mr. Saari advised of the generous donation from the Waupaca Mobil Travel Center to the Waupaca Learning Center. A motion was made by Betty Manion and seconded by Sandra Robinson to accept with gratitude the donation from Waupaca Mobil Travel Center as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

2020 Giving Season Report:

Director of Student Services Laurie Schmidt presented the annual 2020 Holiday Giving Season report advising of the generous donations and support provided to our families in need during this past holiday season.

District Administrator's Report:

Mr. Saari advised that the transition plan to increase levels of in-person learning is in progress and is going very well. The COVID data continues to be favorable with decreasing numbers for both the County and inside the District. We are anticipating that the third and final phase of the Transition Plan will occur next Tuesday, February 16th.

Mr. Saari advised that choral and band practices have been approved and must follow certain guidelines.

Mr. Saari also advised that the Grant Writer is doing very well, and is working on two grants pertaining to the School District. In exchange for the incentive payment per his contract, Mr. Grohman asked that he be allowed to work a more flexible schedule. The District, City, and County have total confidence that he will continue to produce so they agreed to his request.

Mr. Saari attended the virtual WASB State Education Convention in January. He provided information from the sessions some of the Board members attended, as well as highlighted two sessions he found especially interesting relating to strategies for Board engagement activities. Mr. Saari also provided the results of a survey of superintendents relating to the virtual convention.

Mr. Saari advised that work on the District's Strategic Plan will resume and provided a timeline, with the goal that before staff leave for the summer break they will be aware of what we will be focusing on.

As a follow-up to a request for professional development relating to policy governance, Mr. Saari advised of what the Aspen Group recommends, the work that would be involved, and the cost. Mr. Saari suggested that maybe a governance task force committee or strategic governance team be created to determine how to proceed with updating the Governance Policies and our understanding of Policy Governance. However, at this time, Mr. Saari would like to focus on finalizing the District's Strategic Plan and moving forward with the adoption of the NEOLA policies.

Board Reports:

Delegate Assembly Report:

Patrick Phair, as the Board's Delegate, attended the Delegate Assembly during the WASB State Education Convention. Ten resolutions were presented and all passed. He highlighted three of them: 1) a one-cent sales tax to go towards school infrastructure, technology, and tax relief; 2) Act 31 requiring all school districts to have curriculum relating to indigenous tribes; and 3) changing school district mascots, logos, and imagery depicting Native Americans.

Student Representative Report:

Ella Waite advised that the Student Council has several items on their agenda but realizes some may not be possible due to the pandemic. For example, rather than having a banquet for those students achieving excellent grades, there will be a slide show this year. She also advised that the High School played the Kahoots game, and organized a toothpaste drive for the warming shelter.

Upcoming Meetings and Other Activities:

The Board was reminded of the following upcoming meetings and other activities:

February 12, 2021 – Policy Committee Meeting – 11:00 a.m.

February 25, 2021 – Learning in 2020-2021 Stakeholders Meeting – 5:00 p.m.

February 26, 2021 – Policy Committee Meeting – 11:00 a.m.

March 16, 2021 – Regular Board Meeting – 5:15 p.m.

March 19, 2021 – Policy Committee Meeting – 11:00 a.m.

Monitoring:

College and Career Readiness/Waupaca ACP:

Director of Technology Steve Thomaschefskey thanked the entire ACP and CTE staff, also noting all of their hard work in moving to virtual. He advised of the Academic and Career Planning (ACP) and Career and Technical Education (CTE) highlights for the 2020-2021 school year with comparisons to previous years, noting that we were down in some areas because of the pandemic. He also advised that because of going virtual, they were not able to implement the Career Based Learning Benchmarks.

Schoology Updates by Building:

In an effort to show how Schoology is being used throughout our District, Paul Frank (HS math teacher), Matt Lawniczak (K-5 art teacher), Brianna Hass (CEC 3rd-5th grade teacher), and Kerrigan Neidert (WLC 3rd grade teacher) each demonstrated how they deliver instruction and assignments to their students, including many through videos, using Schoology. A positive in using Schoology is that students have access to the material (current and previous lessons) at any time. Teachers are able to access it using most any type of device. At first, using Schoology made the teachers' jobs more difficult and was more time consuming, requiring them to be more organized. They do feel that as time goes on, it is beginning to seem less time intensive. Mr. Thomaschefskey advised that parental use is somewhat limited because our focus was on getting teachers and students up and running first before opening the parent portal piece. He added that the District is way ahead in using Schoology compared to other districts, and what usually involves a two year timeline was done in three months. The Board expressed their appreciation to all of the teachers for their dedication and service to the community.

Policy Committee:

Committee Chairperson Patrick Phair reported that the Committee discussed the WASB Equity Statement. The Committee recommended to the full Board to adopt the School District of Waupaca Equity Statement as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a voice vote.

The Committee also discussed a NEOLA Board Compensation Policy, and much debate and discussion was had regarding revisions to the Policy Governance Compensation Policy which were required due to changes in state law.

Board member Steve Hackett added that the Board deserves a raise and made recommendations regarding the per meeting payments and length of meetings. It was suggested that the Board approve the Committee's recommendation but, in addition, build in a timeframe to review the policy again.

This additional amendment could be discussed at the upcoming Policy Committee meeting on Friday, February 12th.

The Committee recommended to the full Board to revise the Policy Governance Manual under Section I. Governance Process, Paragraph J. Board Member Compensation and Expenses, to eliminate the annual stipends and revise the per meeting stipend to reflect that the Board President receives \$60 per meeting, the Board Clerk and Board Treasurer each receive \$55 per meeting, and the remaining Board members each receive \$50 per meeting, as presented, to become effective May 1, 2021. The recommendation carried on a 6-1-0 roll call vote, with Steve Hackett voting nay.

The Committee recommended to the full Board to adopt NEOLA Policy 0144.1 - Board Compensation as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a voice vote.

The Committee also recommended to the full Board to adopt the following policies as presented:

Electoral Process (NEOLA 0142.1)
Qualifications (NEOLA 0142.2)
W131 Term (NEOLA 0142.3)
Oath (NEOLA 0142.4)
Recall (NEOLA 0142.6)
Conflict of Interest (NEOLA 0144.3)
Indemnification (NEOLA 0144.4)
Required Student Academic Standards Agenda Item (NEOLA 0151.2)
Quorum (NEOLA 0162)

The recommendation carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Instructional Committee:

Committee Chairperson Dale Feldt reported that the Committee met on February 1, 2021, and discussed several items, including the 2022-2023 School Calendar. The Committee recommended to the full Board to approve the 2022-2023 School Calendar-Option A as presented. The recommendation carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Administration:

2nd Friday in January Enrollment Count:

Mr. Flaten shared the 2nd Friday in January enrollment report which is required by the DPI.

CESA 5 Lease Agreement for 2021-2022:

Mr. Saari presented the Commercial Lease Agreement between the School District and CESA 5 for 2021-2022, which is identical to last year's except for Section 2.1 indicating an increased rental amount. CESA 5 is not interested in purchasing the property.

A motion was made by Steve Hackett and seconded by Dale Feldt to approve the CESA 5 Commercial Lease Agreement for 2021-2022 as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Consent Agenda:

Mr. Saari requested that the Chain Exploration Center 2021-2022 Student Handbook be removed from the consent agenda to allow the CEC Governance Council to review and approve the requested additions to the Handbook prior to it coming before the full Board.

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Betty Manion to approve the items of the consent agenda as amended with Item XI.B.6.e. stricken.

Financial Reports:

Accounts Payable Approval: \$2,759,865.48, and Building Fund Payable: \$0.00
Cash Receipts: \$5,203,125.52

Resignations:

Cali Nelson – WLC Ed. Asst.

Hires – 2020-2021 School Year:

Emalee Lipke – WHS Ed. Asst. – Spec Ed.

Transfers/Changes:

Tracie Carrick – 40% WLC 4K Ed. Asst. and 40% WLC Ed. Asst. – Spec. Ed. to 80% WLC 4K Ed. Asst.

Extra-Curriculars – 2020-2021 School Year:

WHS Coaching Positions:

Shane Dillman – Varsity Boys Track

Tyler Norton – Asst. Varsity Girls Track

WMS Advisor Positions:

Colleen Larsen – Destination Imagination Coach

Salary Step Changes:

Shana Rogney – 17B24 to 17B30

School Handbooks for the 2021-2022 School Year:

Waupaca High School

Waupaca Middle School

Waupaca Learning Center

Waupaca 4K

The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Sandra Robinson to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Stephen Johnson, President
Board of Education

Elizabeth Manion, Clerk
Board of Education